

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER  
SEP 08 2006

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) The ~~An~~ emulsion producing apparatus according to claim 11, which is an emulsion producing apparatus for producing an emulsion by mixing at least two kinds or more of liquids, said emulsion producing apparatus comprising:  
mixing means for mixing the plurality of liquids substantially uniformly;  
a pressure rising pump for rising pressure of a mixture solution produced by the mixing means,  
wherein delivery pressure of the pressure rising pump provided at an inlet of ~~the an~~ emulsifying means falls in a range of 5 MPa through 15 MPa; and  
the emulsifying means for bringing the mixture solution pressurized from the pressure rising pump into an emulsified state;  
wherein the emulsifying means includes a main body with a plurality of chambers into which the mixture solution flows;  
wherein the plurality of chambers are arranged in series ~~and partitioned by partition walls arranged among the respective chambers; and~~  
wherein each of the partition walls is formed with at least one or more of small holes for communicating contiguous ones of the chambers interposing the partition walls,  
wherein a diameter of an equivalent circle of the small hole of the partition wall falls in a range of 0.5 mm through 2 mm; and  
wherein an inside of the main body is aligned with a spacer between the partition walls and/or an interval between the partition wall and one end of the main body, the spacer having a length in a longitudinal direction longer than the diameter of the small hole.

- 2 -

Application No. 09/988,407  
Attorney Docket No.: VX012384

## 2-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended) The emulsion producing apparatus according to ~~Claim 1~~ claim 11, wherein the mixing means includes a circular disk member for mixing the plurality of liquids and a surfactant substantially uniformly.

6. (Currently amended) The emulsion producing apparatus according to ~~Claim 1~~ claim 11, wherein the mixing means includes an impeller for mixing the plurality of liquids and a surfactant substantially uniformly.

7. (Currently amended) The emulsion producing apparatus according to ~~Claim 1~~ claim 11, wherein the pressure rising pump is driven by an electric motor whose rotational speed can be changed.

8. (Currently amended) The emulsion producing apparatus according to ~~Claim 1~~ claim 11, wherein the pressure rising pump is driven by an engine utilizing the mixture solution brought into the emulsified state by the emulsifying means as a fuel.

9. (Currently amended) The emulsion producing apparatus according to ~~Claim 1~~ claim 11, wherein the pressure rising pump is of a variable delivery type.

- 3 -

Application No. 09/988,407  
Attorney Docket No.: VX012384

10. (Currently amended) The emulsion producing apparatus according to ~~Claim 1 claim~~  
11, wherein a pre-pressurizing pump for pressurizing the mixture solution produced by the mixing means and sending it to the pressure rising pump is provided on an upstream side of the pressure rising pump.

11. (Previously presented) An emulsion producing apparatus for producing an emulsion by mixing at least two kinds or more of liquids, said emulsion producing apparatus comprising:

mixing means for mixing the plurality of liquids substantially uniformly;  
a pressure rising pump for rising pressure of a mixture solution produced by the mixing means; and

emulsifying means for bringing the mixture solution pressurized from the pressure rising pump into an emulsified state, the emulsifying means including a cylindrical main body;

wherein the emulsifying means includes a plurality of chambers into which the mixture solution flows;

wherein the plurality of chambers are partitioned by partition walls arranged among the respective chambers;

wherein each of the partition walls is formed with at least one or more of small holes for communicating contiguous ones of the chambers interposing the partition walls;

wherein inside of the main body is aligned with spacers for maintaining constant intervals between the partition walls and/or an interval between the partition wall and one end of the main body;

wherein the spacers are aligned alternately along with the partition walls along a longitudinal direction of the main body; and

wherein the partition walls and the spacers are urged in one direction along the longitudinal direction of the main body to press to the main body by a spring arranged in the main body.

12. (Currently amended) The emulsion producing apparatus according to ~~Claim 1~~ claim 11, wherein the mixing means includes a first inlet for introducing water, fuel, and surfactant into the mixing means, and a second inlet for introducing emulsifying liquid from the emulsifying means into the mixing means.

13-20. (canceled)

- 5 -

Application No. 09/988,407  
Attorney Docket No.: VX012384